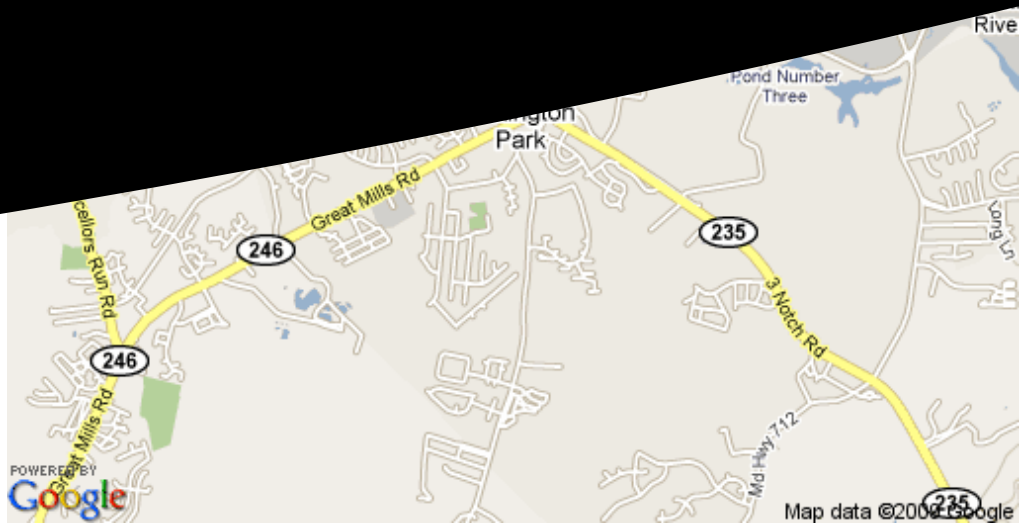


Lexington Park is a statistical area in St. Mary's County, Maryland, with a population of 10,000 at the 2000 census. The town came into being with the establishment of the Naval Air Station during World War II, and was named for the recently sunk USS Lexington aircraft carrier. The area was named for Alan Shepard, and many noted astronauts trained there. In 1977 the Governor Thomas Johnson Bridge spanning the Patuxent River linked the area to Calvert County and Solomons, Maryland. In recent years several aerospace and high-tech companies have located in the area bringing additional jobs. Shopping Centers along Maryland Route 235 ("Three Notch Road") and Great Mills Road have many department stores. Area students attend Great Mills High School. Nearby, Dashiell Hammett, noted novelist, was born on May 27, 1894. Residents of the area are said to "be living down the Park," often with negative overtones.

Lexington Park in seaside St. Mary's County is one of the nation's fastest-growing "micropolitan" areas, expanding by 14.6 percent since 2000, largely on the strength of military growth. The county population may hit 100,000 next year if it continues at last year's 2.1 percent growth rate. In addition, Southern Maryland is the fast-growing area in the state, and a very desirable bedroom community for people who work in the District of



There were 2,459 families residing in the CDP. There were 4,630 housing units at an average density of 2.0/km²). The racial makeup of the CDP was 59.99% White, 30.00% African American, 4.22% Asian, 0.12% Pacific Islander, 1.81% from other races, and 3.48% Hispanic or Latino of any race were 4.78% of the population.

There were 3,923 households out of which 41.8% had children under the age of 18 living with them, 43.9% were married couples living together, 14.7% had a female householder with no husband present, and 37.3% were non-families. 29.5% of all households were made up of individuals and 2.1% had someone living alone who was 65 years of age or older. The average household size was 2.65 and the average family size was 3.34.

In the CDP the population was spread out with 31.5% under the age of 18, 14.0% from 18 to 24, 39.3% from 25 to 44, 12.2% from 45 to 64, and 3.1% who were 65 years of age or older. The median age was 27 years. For every 100 females there were 114.5 males. For every 100 females age 18 and over, there were 120.5 males.

